

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 04052 221158Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

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R 221045Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9325

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS ANKARA 4052

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR, CY

SUBJECT: FURTHER TURKISH PRESS TREATMENT TO DEMIREL

LE MONDE INTERVIEW

REF: A) ATHENS 3756 (NOTAL) B) ANKARA 4016 (NOTAL)

1. MAY 22 TURKISH PRESS TREATMENT OF PRIMIN DEMIREL
INTERVIEW IN MAY 20 LE MONDE (RETELS) FEATURES THE GREEK
REACTION AND INCLUDES SOME EDITORIAL COMMENT.

2. LIBERAL MILLIYET'S LEAD ARTICLE REPORTED THAT FONMIN
CAGLAYANGIL TOLD THE GREEK AMBASSADOR HERE THAT THE INTERVIEW
HAS BEEN GIVEN TO LE MONDE 20 DAYS AGO DURING A DARK PERIOD
IN GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND DID NOT "FULLY REFLECT" THE
PRIMIN'S WORDS. ACCORDING TO MILLIYET'S PARIS CORRESPONDENT,
LE MONDE HAS COME UNDER CRITICISM IN FRENCH JOURNALISTIC
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PAGE 02 ANKARA 04052 221158Z

CIRCLES FOR "UNETHICAL" CONDUCT IN PUBLISHING STORY AS CURRENT

NEWS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ROME CAGLAYANGIL-BITSIOS TALDS.
THE CORRESPONDENT REPORTS THAT MAY 21 LE MONDE ACKNOWLEDGED
A TEN-DAY DELAY IN PRINTING THE INTERVIEW. MILLIYET CONCLUDES
THAT LE MONDE'S IRRESPONSIBILITY COULD ENDANGER THE SCHEDULED
DEMIREL-CARAMANLIS TALDS AT BRUSSELS.

3. SENSATIONALIST GUNAYDIN REPORTS THE CRITICISM ENGENDERED
BY PUBLICATION OF THE INTERVIEW IN GREECE AND CITES THE GREEK PRESS
AS SAYING THAT THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT IS "EXERTING GREAT
EFFORTS" TO PREVENT A CANCELLATION OF THE DEMIREL-CARAMANLIS
TALKS. THE ARTICLE SAYS THAT IT WILL SOON BE SEEN IF CAGLAYANGIL'S
EXPLANATION TO THE GREEK AMBASSADOR WILL RESTORE A "SOFTENING"
OF RELATIONS BETWEEN ANKARA AND ATHENS.

4. MILLIYET'S ABDI IPEKCI COMMENTED IN HIS COLUMN THAT THE
PRESS CAN SOMETIMES CAUSE CONFUSION AND CREATE INTERNATIONAL
INCIDENTS. IN THIS CONNECTION LE MONDE'S ACTION WAS EITHER
"INTENTIONAL SABOTAGE" OR "UNFORTUNATE COINCIDENCE" SINCE THE
DELAYED PUBLICATION COULD REVERSE THE RECENT IMPROVEMENT IN
RELATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, IPEKCI CONTINUED, DEMIREL'S WORDS,
EVEN IF UTTERED 20 DAYS AGO, WERE TOO STRONG AND GAVE THE IMPRESSION
THAT NO RPT NO TURKISH EFFORT WAS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE CONCILIATION.
MACOMBER

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